

# NOC NEWSLETTER

BAKU 2019 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

Issue No 1



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Dear Colleagues,

**With less than 200 days left until EYOF 'Baku 2019', we are happy to share with you some latest updates regarding the 15th summer edition of the European Youth Olympic Festival, which will be held in Baku (Azerbaijan) on 21-27 July 2019.**

We at 'Baku 2019' Organizing Committee are working really hard to beat the clock and deliver a high-class event to all the participants of the upcoming summer EYOF. In this short period of time we have made significant progress in our operational planning and delivery.

We have held joint meetings with the 'Baku 2019' Technical Delegates during which a broad range of sport related matters was discussed. Earlier this month, we hosted the EOC Coordination Commission meeting in Baku during which we provided a detailed update on the current status of the EYOF preparation and sought input from our CoCom colleagues on a number of very important issues.

We have launched our Volunteer Engagement Programme. We have accelerated the integration process with the local government agencies for fine-tuning our operational plans in such areas as security, transport, medical & anti-doping, accreditation and technology. We have also started a two-way communication with our European colleagues regarding a number of international cultural and educational programs that are planned to be delivered in Baku during the upcoming EYOF.

Based on the input and feedback we have received in the past two months, we have updated our operational timelines and milestones, which we are delighted to present to all the European NOCs in the format of the EYOF 'Baku 2019' Newsletter #1.

As we are going full speed ahead with our operational planning and delivery, we will continue to keep you fully informed of our progress. In the meantime, we encourage all the NOCs to contact our NOC Services team at [nocservices.baku2019@eventoc.az](mailto:nocservices.baku2019@eventoc.az) for any questions or comments.

On behalf of the 'Baku 2019' Organizing Committee, I am delighted to say that it is a real honour and privilege for all of us in Baku to host this top multi-sport European youth event with 25 years of tradition. We are looking forward to welcoming Europe's inspiring sports stars of tomorrow to take their first steps on the international stage in Baku this summer.

Sincerely,

**Azad Rahimov**

Minister of Youth and Sport of Azerbaijan  
Deputy Chair of the 'Baku 2019' Organizing Committee

CEO of the 'Baku 2019' Operations Committee

# Welcome to Azerbaijan

Welcome to Azerbaijan! This is the Land of Fire and the Pearl of the Caucasus, a land where eastern colours combine magnificently with western progress. Azerbaijan is a country of unique nature, unmatched culture, centuries of history with its customs and traditions; a place which will satisfy the expectations of the most

sophisticated gastronomists; and finally, it is the country of Caucasian hospitality and friendliness.

Azerbaijan is situated at the eastern side of the Transcaucasia (or South Caucasus) on the shores of the Caspian Sea. The population of Azerbaijan exceeds 9.8 million

and the territory covers an area of 86 600 square kilometres.

For centuries the country has been at the crossroads of continents and civilizations. With lands spanning Europe and Asia, it is a commercial, political and cultural bridge between east and west, north and south.



Historically a part of the Great Silk Road, Azerbaijan has, since ancient times, aroused the interests of great minds, scientists, travellers and historians. References to this amazing land can be found in the ancient writings of Herodotus, Strabo, and Claudius Ptolemy. Azerbaijan has an amazing historical and cultural heritage with more than 7500

natural, archaeological, architectural, and historical monuments. Cave drawings at Gobustan, Momine-Khatun and Garabaghar mausoleums, the Palace of Sheki Khans, the Maiden Tower, the castles of Absheron, medieval manuscripts decorated with magnificent miniature paintings, antique rugs, and works of literature, arts and sculpture – all

of this is just a small part of the country's rich and priceless heritage.

Azerbaijan is the West in the East and the East in the West!

Welcome!



## Beautiful Baku

Baku, capital of Azerbaijan, sits on the shores of the Caspian Sea. This is the city where past and present are intricately intertwined. Its UNESCO-listed Old City is ringed by burgeoning new skyscrapers yet, barely a few hours' drive away, timeless rural villages are backed by the soaring Caucasus mountains. Eclectic architecture – combining historical heritage of the east and west with iconic contemporary buildings – makes Baku one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Baku is firmly established as a key city on the world stage. Open and tolerant, it is a

global centre for intercultural dialogue and cooperation, regularly bringing together political, cultural, sport and religious leaders from around the world.

Baku has also hosted landmark international events, such as the Eurovision Song Contest 2012, the first-ever European Games in 2015, the Islamic Solidarity Games in 2017 and, annually since 2016, the Formula One Azerbaijan Grand Prix.

Baku has a population of about 2.3 million. The official language of the country is Azerbaijani, however Russian, English, and colloquial Turkish are widely spoken across the country, with the English language growing in popularity mostly in big cities.

# Baku 2019' statistics



**21 - 27**

July 2019



**3,600**

Athletes and officials



**7**

Days of competition



**50**

Participating NOC's



**10**

Sports



**2,500**

Volunteers



**12**

Competition venues



**1**

Ceremony venue

# Competition schedule

(as at 01 January 2019)

| EYOF Baku 2019 Competition Schedule |                     |       |              |        |        |         |        | Training    |        |        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|
|                                     |                     |       |              |        |        |         |        | Competition |        |        |
| Sport                               | Discipline          | Venue | Games period |        |        |         |        |             | 6      |        |
|                                     |                     |       | -1           | 0      | 1      | 2       | 3      | 4           |        | 5      |
|                                     |                     |       | Sat 21       | Sun 22 | Mon 23 | Tues 24 | Wed 25 | Thurs 26    | Fri 27 | Sat 28 |
| Ceremonies                          |                     | CRH   |              |        |        |         |        |             |        |        |
| Athletics                           | Track and field     | TBS   |              |        | F      | F       | F      | F           | F      | F      |
| Basketball                          |                     | TUA   |              |        |        |         |        |             |        | F      |
| Cycling                             | Time trial          | CRH   |              |        |        | F TT    |        | F RR        |        |        |
| Gymnastics                          | Artistic            | MGA   |              |        | F      | F       | F      | F           | F      | F      |
| Handball                            |                     | ABU   |              |        |        |         |        |             |        | F      |
| Wrestling                           | GR, FS, WW          | SAR   |              | F      | F      | F       |        |             |        |        |
| Judo                                |                     | SAR   |              |        |        |         | F      | F           | F      | F      |
| Swimming                            |                     | BAC   |              |        | F      | F       | F      | F           | F      | F      |
| Tennis                              | Singles and doubles | BTA   |              |        |        |         |        |             | F/S+D  |        |
| Volleyball                          |                     | DAR   |              |        |        |         |        |             |        | F      |

# Venue master plan (as at 1 Jan'19)

| #      | Venue code | Venue name   | Events / Activities   |
|--------|------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1      | ORH        | Crystal Hall   | Opening / Closing CER |
| 2      | TBS        | Tofiq Bahramov Stadium                                   | Athletics             |
| 3      | MGA        | National Gymnastics Arena                                | Artistic Gymnastics   |
| 4      | VEL        | Velopark + City roads                                    | Cycling               |
| 5, 6   | ABU + BSH  | ABU Arena + Baku Sports Hall                             | Handball              |
| 7      | SAR        | Sarhadchi Arena  | Judo / Wrestling      |
| 8      | BTA        | Baku Tennis Arena  | Tennis                |
| 9      | BAC        | Baku Aquatics Centre                                     | Swimming              |
| 10, 11 | DAR + MES  | Darnagual Arena + MES Sports Arena                       | Volleyball            |
| 12, 13 | TUI + EAS  | Tech University Arena + European Azerbaijan School Arena | Basketball            |

## EYOF Baku 2019 Venue Plan



# Technical delegates visits to Baku

Technical Delegates are responsible for ensuring that all competitions are conducted according to the Rules, Regulations and Guidelines of the sport. Technical Delegates for 15th Summer EYOF were designated by European Federations for respective sports in 3Q'18.

During the period of Nov'18-Jan'19, the 'Baku 2019' Operations Committee held a number of joint meetings with the Technical Delegates in Baku. The Technical Delegates Joint Meeting agenda covered the following areas:

- EYOF 'Baku 2019' organizational context
- Sport data and athlete quotas
- ITO & Referee nomination / selection process and quotas
- Daily competition schedule
- Daily training schedule
- Competition and Training Venue visits (with special focus on FOP, venue flooring, venue dimensions, sport equipment, operational spaces such as athlete changing rooms, Medical & Anti-Doping rooms, etc.)
- Misc. non-sport specific issues such as transport operations, client groups access, etc



Sports Technical Manual



Team Leaders Guide

Based on the feedback and comments made by the Technical Delegates, a number of changes have been made to the 'Baku 2019' Venue Plan and Sport Technical Manuals. Following the final endorsement of the Sport Technical Manuals (v.1), 'Baku 2019' Operations Committee will distribute them to all NOCs (no later than 15th February 2019).

It needs to be pointed out that the 1st version of 'Baku 2019' Sport Technical Manuals will include sport-specific information only. All non-sport function activities will be covered in the 2nd edition of the Sport Technical Manuals which will be distributed to NOCs at a later date.

## EOC Coordination Commission

EYOF 'Baku 2019' together with the EOC Executive Office representatives held a joint meeting with the 'Baku 2019' Operations Committee in Baku. During the joint sessions, a thorough operational review was held and a number of outstanding matters resolved.

EOC was represented by Djordje Visacki, CoCom Chair, Secretary General of NOC Serbia; Liney Rut Halldórsdóttir, CoCom Member, Secretary General of NOC Iceland; Said Fazlagić, CoCom Member, Secretary General of NOC Bosnia and Herzegovina; Hydar Demirel, CoCom Member, EOC Anti-Doping Commission; Steve Scott and Francesco Basili from EOC Executive Office.

Baku 2019' was represented by Azad Rahimov, Minister of Youth & Sport of Azerbaijan and CEO of 'Baku 2019'; Nikki Efendi, Chief of Staff for 'Baku 2019'; Anar Bagirov, Head of NOC Services for 'Baku 2019'; Shafag Huseynli, CEO of the Azerbaijan National Anti-Doping Agency (AMADA); a number of high-ranking officials from the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Azerbaijan; as well as a number of executives and Heads of Functions from the 'Baku 2019' Operations Committee.

During the sessions, the 'Baku 2019' Operations Committee provided a detailed status update on a number of operational areas including Sport; Venues; Results, Timing & Scoring; Registration & Accreditation; Games Transport; Medical & Anti-Doping; Brand; NOC Engagement and others.

The EOC delegation also visited the 'Baku 2019' competition and training venues, held a separate meeting at the Azerbaijan National Anti-Doping Agency (AMADA) and the National Institute of Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (MITRI). It was agreed to hold the next Coordination Commission visit to Baku in April 2019 prior to the Chef-de-Mission seminar (5-7 May 2019).



www.eurolympic.org/eyof-cocom-successfully-concluded-in-baku

**49**  
Confirmed their participation

**38**  
Confirmed their CDM's

**1**  
No response

**150**  
Days to go  
21 February 2019

# NOC engagement Timeline (latest update)

Following a number of consultations and discussions held by the EYOF 'Baku 2019' Operations Committee at different levels within EOC, EFs, and 'Baku 2019' Organizing Committee's Integration Group in the past two months, we have updated the NOC Engagement Timeline as follows:

|                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>15 February 2019</b>     | Sport technical manuals (v1) NOC's |
| <b>15 February 2019</b>     | Accreditation manual to NOC's      |
| <b>1 March 2019</b>         | Accreditation system launch        |
| <b>1 - 10 March 2019</b>    | Final entries by number            |
| <b>1 April 2019</b>         | Accommodation registration go-live |
| <b>10 April 2019</b>        | Long list submission (deadline)    |
| <b>30 April 2019</b>        | CDM manual / tech online           |
| <b>5 - 7 May 2019</b>       | CDM seminar                        |
| <b>15 May - 5 July 2019</b> | Shortlist (SEQ process)            |
| <b>1 - 14 July 2019</b>     | Completion of registration process |

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# Countdown milestones & Ceremonies in 2019

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>21 February 2019</b> | 150-days-to-go  |
| <b>12 April 2019</b>    | 100-days-to-go  |
| <b>12 April 2019</b>    | Handover of EYOF flame of peace / Olive tree of peace to LOC (Rome) |
| <b>1 June 2019</b>      | 50-days-to-go (Games time)  |
| <b>26 June 2019</b>     | 25-days-to-go   |
| <b>11 July 2019</b>     | 10-days-to-go   |
| <b>21 July 2019</b>     | EYOF 'Baku 2019' Opening Ceremony                                   |
| <b>27 July 2019</b>     | EYOF 'Baku 2019' Closing Ceremony                                   |

# EOC Programmes during EYOF Baku 2019

The strategic vision for 'Baku 2019' European Youth Olympic Festival is to stage an outstanding event with world-class sports competitions by blending Sport with Culture and Education. Olympic Culture and Education Programme (OCEP)

## Young Athlete Ambassadors Programme



Olympic Culture and Education Program (OCEP) will be launched during the 15th Summer EYOF in Baku. With the vision to educate youth through sporting and cultural exchange and promote festival among young people, OCEP will form an integral component of EYOF 'Baku 2019' EYOF, providing a memorable and inspiring experience for all participants, especially Young Athlete Ambassadors. Specially formulated for the youth, the program is intending to engage and inspire them to be true champions, to adopt and live by Olympic values of Friendship, Excellence and Respect, and to play active roles in their communities. This program works within the framework of the Olympic Agenda 2020 recommendations. It will make the Festival more youth oriented and help represent the Olympic Movement at a broader international level.

The following are the key accomplishments to date:

- <http://ocep2019.az> website created and functioning in both Azerbaijani and English;
- OCEP2019 Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube pages are active and functioning in both Azerbaijani and English;
- 40 schools from Baku selected and briefed about the program concept and deliverables;
- NOC Azerbaijan with the support of EOC is in process of selecting twinning schools across Europe;
- Young Ambassadors Programme is due to be integrated with OCEP.

## New Leaders Sport Leadership Programme



The New Leaders Sport Leadership Programme is specifically designed for sport professionals who want to challenge themselves, improve leadership skills and are committed to implementing ideas into action. It is for those who want to promote and set good governance a priority, including equality, in the world of sport. The 3rd educational workshop will be held in Baku on 19-22 July 2019. The key theme is "Know what to do and how to do it" focusing on persuasive communication, lobbying and public speaking and strategic action planning. More details on <https://www.olympiakomitea.fi/briefly-in-english/new-leaders>.



## Doping Prevention Monitoring Programme

### Giving Young Athletes a Voice



This IOC sponsored programme aims to give the young athletes a voice not only in terms of what they know about doping in sport, but also how well they feel prepared to deal with pressure points they might face during their careers. EOC has supported the inclusion of this Programme to its EYOFs.



Young athletes

# Information

For more information on Baku and Azerbaijan, please visit:

[http://www.azerbaijan.az/portal/Culture/General/general\\_e.html](http://www.azerbaijan.az/portal/Culture/General/general_e.html)

<http://www.icherisheher.gov.az/static,29/lang,en/>

For more information on sport in Azerbaijan, please visit:

<https://www.noc-aze.org/en/>

[eyofbaku2019.com](http://eyofbaku2019.com)

